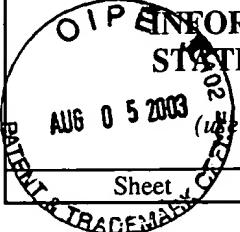


Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO  <b>O I P INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
 Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>1</u>		Application Number		09/673,738	
		Confirmation Number		3763	
		Filing Date		October 20, 2000	
		First Named Inventor		Fumio Takahashi	
		Art Unit		1733	
		Examiner Name		Steven D. Maki	
				Attorney Docket Number	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>			
<i>fm</i>	JP	7-186630		07/25/1995	BRIDGESTONE CORPORATION	
<i>fm</i>	EP	875403	A2	11/04/1998	BRIDGESTONE CORPORATION	
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<i>fm</i>	EP	246995	A	11/25/1987	THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER CO	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.			Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature	<i>Maki</i>	Date Considered	<i>8-21-03</i>
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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